

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

S E C R E T USNATO 4485

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SPC DISCUSSION AUGUST 19 ON FLANK SECURITY

REF: A) USNATO 2586; B) USNATO 4416; C) STATE 175188; D) USNATO 4277

SUMMARY: SPC ON AUGUST 19 RETURNED TO MBFR FLANK SECURITY ISSUE.

TURKISH REP SAID TURKEY ACCEPTS BELGIAN FORMULATION, WITH "CHAPEAU"

SENTENCE, AND WITHOUT "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY", AND HOPES SPC CAN

REACH EARLY AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, DUTCH REP MADE STATEMENT THAT HIS

AUTHORITIES BELIEVE IT PREMATURE TO USE WITH OTHER SIDE A NEW

FORMULATION ON EITHER FLANK SECURITY OR WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICTS, AND

THAT THE TWO ISSUES MUST BE LINKED. DUTCH REP IN CORRIDOR

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CONVERSION LATER CITED PRESENT FLANK PROBLEMS AS A REASON WHY

ALLIES SHOULD NOT FURTHER DEVELOP POSITION ON FLANK SECURITY AT

FALL SESSION IN VIENNA. MISSION SEES SOME MERIT

IN INTERNAL ALLIED WORK ON MBFR FLANK SECURITY, SINCE

THIS IS AN ISSUE ON WHICH GREECE AND TURKEY HAVE AGREED IN THE PAST, AND AN ISSUE WHICH MAY SERVE TO REMIND THEM OF THEIR COMMON SECURITY REQUIREMENTS, ALTHOUGH PACE OF WORK WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH INTEREST THEY SHOW IN IT. END SUMMARY.

1. SPC ON AUGUST 19 RETURNED TO FLANK SECURITY ISSUE.

2. TURKISH REP (YALIM ERALP) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES CAN ACCEPT THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WITH THE CHAPEAU SENTENCE, AND WITHOUT "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY". HE SAID THE SPC HAS DISCUSSED THE FLANK ISSUE FOR A LONG TIME, AND TURKEY NOW HOPES THAT AGREEMENT WILL BE POSSIBLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. DANISH REP (VILLADSEN) REITERATED DANISH SUPPORT FOR A FORMULATION LINKING THE FLANK ISSUE WITH THE WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICT ISSUE. DENMARK FAVORED THE BELGIAN FORMULATION. ITALIAN REP (SPINELLI) SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO PREFER TAKING THE TWO ISSUES TOGETHER, AND PREFER THE BELGIAN FORMULATION.

4. NETHERLANDS REP (SIZOO) RECALLED THE DUTCH PAPER OF MAY 10 (REF A), WHICH SAID THAT THE DUTCH DID NOT CONSIDER THIS THE RIGHT TIME TO PROPOSE TO THE EAST SPECIFIC FORMULATIONS OR PROVISIONS. DUTCH FELT AT THAT TIME AHG SHOULD CONTINUE TO SOUND OUT OTHER SIDE REGARDING POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO MEET CONCERNS OF BOTH DIRECT AND SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS. DUTCH AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT IT IS STILL PREMATURE TO PROPOSE NEW FORMULATIONS ON FLANKS OR WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICTS. DUTCH AUTHORITIES FURTHER BELIEVE THAT THE TWO ISSUES CAN NOT BE SEPARATED AND SHOULD BE LINKED. REGARDING THE LATEST GERMAN PROPOSAL (REF B), NETHERLANDS BELIEVES PROBLEM OF OTHER THAN WITHDRAWN FORCES WOULD STILL REMAIN TO BE SOLVED.

5. NORWEGIAN REP (SELMER) SAID NORWAY COULD ACCEPT EITHER BELGIAN FORMULATION OR SOME OTHER FORMULATION DEALING WITH THE FLANK PROBLEM ALONE. HOWEVER, NETHERLANDS' PROPOSAL TO REFRAIN FROM INTRODUCING FORMULATION ALTOGETHER IS THE WORST CONCEIVABLE COURSE. VIENNA WOULD THEN COMPLETELY LOSE SIGHT
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OF THE FLANK PROBLEM. U.S. REP FAVORED BELGIAN PROPOSAL ALONG LINES OF REF C A S THE BEST BASIS FOR COMPROMISE. ITALIAN REP SAID HE SAW NO HURRY IN DEVELOPING A FORMULATION, AND CONSIDERED THE NETHERLANDS STATEMENT REASONABLE. FRG REP (RANTZAU) ALSO DID NOT SEE THE URGENCY NOW FOR A FORMULATION ON FLANK SECURITY. BELGIAN REP (BURNY) THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR AHG TO CONTINUE TO SPEAK IN GENERAL TERMS AND THAT AHG NEEDED SOMETHING MORE TO SAY. TURKISH, NORWEGIAN AND DANISH REPS AGREED WITH BELGIAN REMARK. ACTING CHAIRMAN (KILLHAM) SUGGESTED DELEGATIONS REPORT BACK TO CAPITALS AND SEE IF A LITTLE MOVEMENT IS POSSIBLE AT SPC MEETING AUGUST 26.

6. UK DISTRIBUTED A PAPER ON HUNGARY (TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL). UK

REP (BAILES) NOTED THAT THIS PAPER REFLECTS UK VIEWS THAT HUNGARY CAN NOT BE DEALT WITH OUTSIDE OF A NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISION. ALTHOUGH THE PAPER SUGGESTS A FORMULATION ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION WHICH DEALS WITH HUNGARY, SHE WANTED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE UK IS VERY FLEXIBLE ON THIS, AND CAN PROBABLY ACCEPT ANY FORMULATION CURRENTLY BEFORE THE SPC. ITALIAN REP POINTED OUT THAT ITALY HAD HUNGARY IN MIND IN SUGGESTING AN ADDITION TO THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL WHICH SPECIFIES GEOGRAPHIC AREAS (REF D). FRG REP ASKED UK REP WHY THE UK IS RAISING THE QUESTION OF HUNGARY NOW. UK REP REPLIED THAT HERE AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT ALLIES MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF HUNGARY ISSUE, THAT HUNGARY MUST BE HANDLED AT SOME STAGE, AND THAT ALLIES HAVE THE TIME TO FIND A GENERAL SOLUTION.

7. DUTCH REP IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATION WITH MISSION OFFICER AFTER THE MEETING USED CYPRUS-RELATED FLANK PROBLEMS AS A REASON WHY AHG SHOULD NOT FURTHER DEVELOP ALLIED POSITION ON FLANK SECURITY AT FALL SESSION IN VIENNA. MISSION OFFICER SUGGESTED ALLIES SHOULD TRY TO MAKE WHAT PROGRESS THEY COULD.

8. COMMENT: MISSION DOES NOT SHARE VIEW OF DUTCH REP THAT BECAUSE OF CYPRUS THE ALLIES SHOULD CALL OFF INTERNAL WORK ON MBFR FLANK SECURITY. ALTHOUGH IN A SENSE IRRELEVANT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES MBFR FLANK SECURITY IS AN ISSUE ON WHICH GREECE AND TURKEY HAVE ALWAYS AGREED IN THE PAST AND IT IS AN ISSUE WHICH MAY SERVE TO REMIND THEM OF THEIR COMMON SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. ALLIED WORK ON THIS ISSUE WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH INTEREST THE FLANK COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO SHOW IN IT. THEIR STRONG SUPPORT FOR SOMETHING LIKE THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WILL BE
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NECESSARY IF THERE IS TO BE ANY CHANCE OF MODIFYING THE DUTCH POSITION AGAINST A FORMULATION ON EITHER FLANK SECURITY OR NON-CIRCUMVENTION AT THIS TIME. TURKEY NOW SUPPORTS THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WITH THE "CHAPEAU" SENTENCE AND WITHOUT "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY", BUT GREECE HAS NOT YET MADE ITS VIEWS KNOWN.
MCAULIFFE

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